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Country:

Germany/Russia

Subject:

Personnel Changes and Activities of Soviet Naval Research Group in Karlsborst.

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1. On 6 April 1947, Naval Captain Feodorov replaced Colonel Korshov as chief of the Soviet Navy research staff at Junker Jagtstrasse 9 in Karlsborst.

2. Also on 6 April, 200 technical officers arrived from Moscow and reported to Feodorov for assignment. These men are to staff research projects in the Russian Zone of Germany, some as students and others as supervisors who will introduce new procedures. At a staff conference, Feodorov explained that it had been necessary to transfer these 200 men to Germany to gain first-hand experience, since the plan to exploit deported German scientists had failed. A great number of the German technicians could be used only to iron out differences between German and Russian technical questions and to help German morale in the USSR. Only the top men among the Germans could be integrated into major research projects or employed in ministries, and these men, earning 2,000 to 10,000 rubles per month, were a great drain on the Soviet economy.

3. Lieutenant Colonel V. G. Andreyev continues as executive officer of the Karlsborst research unit. Captains Gertsig and Boykovsky, respectively in charge of the motor pool and miscellaneous administrative functions, departed on 1 April.

4. Naval Captain Schwerenborg, said to be a leading Soviet television expert, was among several Russian scientists who conferred with the Karlsborst staff during recent weeks.

5. The Navy research staff, sources states in a partial recapitulation of some earlier information, is interested in all former German projects dealing with guided missiles; launching, aircraft-borne and torpedo-aiming devices; floodlights; air brakes; gyroscopic stabilizers for aerial guns; and

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automatic control boards for aircraft designed to record the amount of damage sustained in air combat. The Karlsruhe staff supervises approximately twelve projects in the Russian Zone. [redacted] in-
clude the following:

- a. Schraubenfabrik, AGG -- development of naval radios.
- b. Gema -- construction of commercial naval steam engines.
- c. A project in Dresden dealing with acoustics.
- d. A high frequency project, details unknown.
- e. "Fritz II" -- being reconstructed in the two-family house at Junker Jägerstrasse 9 by thirty German draughtsmen and electricians under Gern, former construction chief for Wagner, inventor of the Henschel Körper. This group is also working on the reconstruction of a target practice instrument (Zielübunggerät), operated by reflectors, which was found in Vienna by the Russians. [redacted] these men also repair staff radios and other instruments.

- f. The Hilgers group, directed by Dr. Giovanni Hilgers, is supervised by Major Rivkin. A member of the Moscow Television Institute, Rivkin is on detached service at Karlsruhe. This group, housed at Domhofstrasse 9, consists of twenty Germans who are attempting development of a testing apparatus for guided missile steering devices, based on one perfected by a Professor Fischer. When this has been completed, the Hilgers group will turn to the production of 100 aerial gunnery training devices. Besides Hilgers, leading personalities are Jürgens, former construction chief of the AGG gas turbine section, and von Trauenfels, who performs most of the calculation work required.

Comment: In regard to Paragraph 5: a) the Schraubenfabrik has been reported to be experimenting with or producing high frequency tubes; b) Gema presumably refers to the Ministerium für Schiffbauindustrie, KOP, whose program is believed to be far more extensive than this suggests; f) the Hilgers group earlier was reported by the same source to occupy two houses; f) [redacted] the aerial gunnery training device project had been cancelled on orders from Moscow.

Similar projects are being undertaken by the Soviet Army and Air Forces, but none of them is coordinated except on the highest levels in Moscow. New projects may be initiated without Moscow approval.